

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 15
By McLeary

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Jack Drake for
meritorious service.

WHEREAS, our nation was conceived by individuals who were willing to sacrifice their personal safety and concerns to ensure our individual and collective freedom, and the Volunteer State is especially proud to be the home of so many valiant men and women who have performed above and beyond the call of duty; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Tennesseans continue this time-honored tradition of volunteerism through service in the United States Army Air Force; and

WHEREAS, Jack Drake served with courage and gallantry and deserves proper recognition for heroism both in the United States Army Air Force and in society today; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drake served with great bravery and ability as a pilot from 1942 to 1945, logging 1500 hours, most of it in combat, and ended his career with the military at the rank of Captain; and

WHEREAS, for his courage in the face of battle, Jack Drake received the Distinguished Flying Cross for bringing his plane home safely after losing two engines while on a mission into Austria from Africa on November 2, 1943; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Drake received additional honors for his bravery and valor in a time of war, including the Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, a Presidential citation for flying 50 bombing missions, the European Theatre of Operations Ribbon with two battle stars, and the American Theatre ribbon; and

WHEREAS, at the end of his outstanding tenure with the United States Army Air Force, Jack Drake returned home to become an instructor pilot at Halls Air Force Base and later met the woman who would become his wife, Dorothy DeLoach; and

WHEREAS, Jack and Dorothy Drake enjoyed 57 years of wedded bliss, until the untimely death of Mrs. Drake in March of 2003; during their marriage, the Drakes were blessed with the birth of four children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Jack Drake performed his duties with the utmost skill, dedication and professionalism; his service can only be categorized as outstanding; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Jack Drake from Madison County for meritorious service in the United States Army Air Force and offer our thanks for a difficult job well done.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.